



August 2000

HOME HEALTH AGENCY UPDATE



North Dakota Department of Health
Division of Health Facilities

SPECIAL PPS AND OASIS EDITION

Administrators, please share this newsletter with your home health agency staff.

Prospective Payment System

A few home health agencies have called to inquire about the Prospective Payment System (PPS) and how they should handle certain areas, if we are going to provide PPS training, etc. You are probably aware that the HCFA contracted Intermediary is holding a Medicare Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS) Workshop on Aug. 29, 2000, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Radisson Inn, Bismarck, N.D. Many of your PPS questions should be answered at this workshop.

We are awaiting direction from the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) as to how the state agency should interpret the OASIS-related aspects of the PPS regulations. Once we receive information regarding PPS and what our role will be with the requirements, we will notify you.

HHA PPS Related NEWS

by Cindy Wigton (HCFA)

Patients that are on the HHA's caseload prior to the PPS (Perspective Payment System) effective date of 10/02/2000 will all be brought under the PPS umbrella by means of Follow-Up assessment that will be implemented in September 2000. That means that the next recertification's episode of care would be 11/25/2000 through 11/29/2000. The original Start of Care Date (M0030) for OASIS data collection purposes is maintained. Therefore, if the original Start of Care Date was 05/15/2000, the assessment would receive the new warning message #262 on the Final Validation Report. The HHA will continue to receive this warning message on all subsequent recertification OASIS assessments while the patient is receiving care.

Statistics show that 60 percent of home health patients are discharged within 60 days from their Start of Care Date; therefore, no

matter when the Follow-Up is conducted in September (required for all patients already on board), the next Follow-Up would be due 11/25/2000 through 11/29/2000. The next recertification assessment would be due day 56 through day 60 of the NEXT episode of care.

Note: October 1, 2000 is Day 1 of the 60-day cycle instead of October 2.



HAVEN Data Entry Software

HAVEN Production Version 4.0

HAVEN now supports the OASIS 1.10 data specification, including the calculation of HIPPS codes for applicable assessments. Note that the value for M0090 must be on or after 09/01/2000 in order to successfully complete and export a 1.10 assessment. HAVEN continues to support entry of OASIS 1.04 assessments; however, 1.04 assessments must have a M0090 value prior to 10/01/2000. Upon entering a 1.04 assessment, HAVEN checks the M0090 value. If the value is earlier than 09/01/2000, then data entry is performed with the 1.04 specification. If the value is between 09/01/2000 and 09/30/2000 inclusive, or if M0090 has not been entered yet, the user is asked whether the assessment should be converted to a 1.10 assessment. **NOTE:** A 1.10 assessment cannot be converted back to a 1.04 assessment.

A correction to an assessment maintains the assessment specification of the prior version; i.e., a correction of a 1.04 assessment is error-checked with the 1.04 specification rules.

HIPPS values are calculated with applicable 1.10 assessments. The user may highlight an assessment and calculate the HIPPS values from the HAVEN Management Screen or from within the HAVEN data entry screens. When an assessment is marked complete, the HIPPS values are calculated again and stored to ensure that the correct values are associated with the final version of the assessment.

The export screen has been enhanced to display HIPPS information for each Export Ready assessment. The assessment list can be printed using the Print Assmts command button. The list can be sorted by clicking once on the displayed columns -- additional clicks toggle the sort between ascending and descending order.

HAVEN now supports operation with the Windows 2000 operating system.

If a patch is required to the HAVEN databases, a HAVEN Patch screen is displayed after logging in. The user has the option to continue with the patch or exit the program. It is strongly recommended that a backup of the databases be performed prior to allowing HAVEN to perform any patches.

This version of HAVEN is 32-bit only; 16-bit versions are no longer in development.

During data entry, the HAVEN title bar displays the specification version in effect for that assessment (e.g., 1.10 Specification).

The HAVEN Import function now supports the import of both 1.10 and 1.04 assessments.

HAVEN 4.0 should be installed directly over the previous version. Removal of previous versions is NOT recommended

before installing HAVEN 4.0, as this would result in the loss of collected data.

If you received a CD copy of HAVEN in the mail or you requested that you be put on the update list, you will automatically receive HAVEN 4.0 production version beginning in the middle of August.

*****IMPORTANT HAVEN NOTICE*****

HAVEN 4.0 that is currently displayed below has an error in item M0825. The correct version of M0825 should appear as follows:

(M0825) Therapy Need: Does the care plan of the Medicare payment period for which this assessment will define a case mix group indicate a need for therapy (physical, occupational, or speech therapy) that meets the threshold for a Medicare high-therapy case mix group?

- 0 - No
- 1 - Yes
- NA - Not applicable

If your copy of HAVEN does not match the above, please download the new data dictionary by following the instructions below:

The HAVEN System Software dictionary has been updated to accommodate the fix.

The new dictionary corrects the labeling of the M0825 item. The value 00 is now correctly labeled as No and the value 01 is now correctly labeled as Yes.

Here are the steps for obtaining and applying the update:

1. Download the self-extracting file [HAVEN4UP.EXE](#) to a temporary directory (e.g., C:\TEMP).

2. Execute HAVEN4UP.EXE; the new dictionary, HHADICT.MDB, will be extracted.
3. Backup the current HAVEN installation.
4. Copy HHADICT.MDB to the HAVEN installation directory (e.g., C:\HAVEN).

When you have installed HAVEN 4.0 and the new dictionary, then the new Dictionary Date displayed in the About Box will be 8/07/2000. Also confirm that your updated Haven 4.0 item M0825, matches the item shown above

This HAVEN fix is located at <http://www.hcfa.gov/medicaid/oasis/havensof.htm#4.0>

Scheduling OASIS Follow-up Assessments

The OASIS follow-up (recertification) assessment completion date (M0090) must be set within a five-day window that ends 60 days from the start of care date (M0030). The date in M0090 must be one of the five days between day-56 and day-60 from the date in M0030 (which is counted as day-1).

A second OASIS recertification assessment must be completed within a five-day window ending 120 days from the start of care date. The OASIS assessment completion date (M0090) must be between day-116 and day-120 from the start of care date. The second recertification is NOT scheduled based upon completion of the first recertification assessment.

To assist the assessor to determine the appropriate dates to schedule the first and two subsequent recertification OASIS assessments, a calendar has been developed using a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. The

spreadsheet, [OASIS Calendar.xls](#), presents four sets of columns. The first set of columns represents the patient's start of care date. The next three sets provide the dates to use to schedule three subsequent recertification OASIS assessments. The recertification columns contain the first and last permissible recertification completion dates.

Please click [OASIS Calendar.xls](#) to download the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To use the spreadsheet to create an annual calendar of start of care dates and related recertification dates, enter the desired four-digit year in cell B4 of the spreadsheet. For example, to produce a calendar for the year beginning Jan. 1, 2001, enter "2001" in cell B4 (without the "quote" marks).

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Is the OASIS data submission specific to each state or is it standardized?

Answer: OASIS data submission is standardized for all states.

Question: What other official software programs are there besides HAVEN?

Answer: While acceptable software other than HAVEN does exist, HCFA will not be approving software programs designed by outside vendors. HHAs may use programs designed by other vendors, as long as these programs meet the HCFA-approved edit specifications currently posted on the OASIS Website.

HHAs using other than HAVEN software can test their software by importing their assessments into HAVEN by running the error checking function.

Question: We have six licensed home health agencies all under one corporate umbrella. I am anxious to know if there will be some way to have all six agencies enter their data into one HAVEN database.

Answer: HAVEN was designed for the stand-alone home health agency as a data entry tool to encode and edit the OASIS data. At this time, HAVEN cannot support multiple provider numbers. In a future release of HAVEN, we will consider providing an option for multiple provider numbers. For now, you will need to have each agency use the HAVEN software files for each provider number or contact a software vendor to assist you with an alternate software approach.

Question: I import into HAVEN from a different front-end software and use HAVEN for final processing and export. When I try to import into HAVEN 3.0, I receive a message that says: "Only a local use export file may be imported into HAVEN. This file cannot be imported." What does this mean and what can I do to import my file into HAVEN?

Answer: On the export function, submission type Local Use was added. For this submission type, no masking is performed and the M0160 field is not blanked out. In addition, a value of "2" is written out for the Test/Production Indicator at position 574 of the header record.

On the import function, only import files with a value of "2" for the Test/Production Indicator at position 574 of the header record are allowed. This feature prevents the import of any files with masked data.

NOTE: This applies only in HAVEN. If a file is submitted to the state system with a

“2” in the Test/Production Indicator position it will be rejected.

Question: I had a record rejected and received a fatal error #150 (Primary Diagnosis Field was blank). There was a valid ICD-9 code entered into (M0230). How can I correct this assessment?

Answer: This situation was probably due to an unintended consequence of your state law. Some states prohibit the collection of HIV and/or STD diagnosis codes. To comply, the OASIS state system is programmed to reject an HIV or STD diagnosis code. If the state system were blank fields, then all assessments with blank primary diagnosis fields would represent patients with a diagnosis of HIV or STD, essentially defeating the purpose of confidentiality. The current policy is that the HHAs must enter in (M0230) the next most appropriate diagnosis code that is related to the HIV or STD code (i.e., fatigue, malaise, pneumonia,...)

Test Function

The test submission function is available to help agencies when they are changing vendors or if a vendor installs new software patches and upgrades. The test submission is **not** intended for transmitting patient data for feedback reports and then changing the records based on the feedback report and resubmitting altered records as production data.

General Information

- HCFA has revised the Implementing OASIS at a Home Health Agency to Improve Patient Outcomes (Part 1) of the OASIS User's Manual (7/99), Part 2 – Systems User's Guide Version 1.2 (April 2000) Error Messages and

Description Guide and Part 3 - HAVEN Systems Reference Manual (April 2000). All manuals have been posted on the OASIS Website at:
<http://www.hcfa.gov/medicaid/oasis/oasis.htm>

Click on “What’s New” for the link to the above-mentioned manuals.

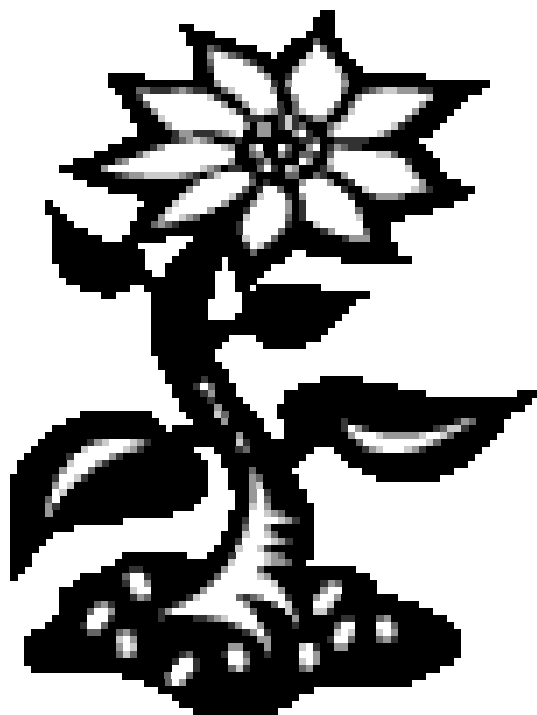
- An HTML version of the Data specs has also been posted if you want to avail yourself of this format. It's on the data specs page, second palm tree, third bullet.
- New OASIS data sets are available on the OASIS Website. These forms are dated 8/2000. All agencies should be using the OASIS B-1 (8/2000) 1.10 revision data sets that are now available on the Website. These new sets will replace current sets and are needed for implementing the HHA PPS. All agencies should be using the HAVEN 4.0 software now as well. This includes the masking for non-Medicare/non-Medicaid patient data and the ability to encode OASIS assessments either in or out of sequence. If you have any questions about this, please contact David McCowan at 701.328.1727 or e-mail dmccowan@state.nd.us
- We have received no further word on the updated Home Health Agency Condition of Participation other than we expect the regulations to be published some time this fall.

- Submission of Non-Medicare/Non-Medicaid OASIS data is not yet required. It is totally voluntary at this time, and will not be required until a federal Register notice establishing the effective date is published later this year.

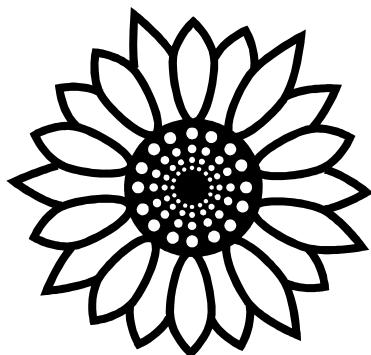
Keep up the good work!!

**No man ever found a happy life
by chance, or yawned it into
being with a wish.**

By Robert Cecil.



HCFA provided the attached “OASIS
CONSIDERATIONS FOR
MEDICARE PATIENTS”



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